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2. If after inserting the needle in the arm and opening the stopcock it is found that the vein has not been tapped, the needle can be left in place and the stopcock and tube removed while a new vacuum is secured. Under the same circumstances with the Kiedel apparatus the tube is worthless, and failure to reach the vein, which is generally discovered after the tube is broken, means an extra expense together with an added discomfort to the patient caused by the withdrawal and reinsertion of the needle.

3. Any amount of blood can be taken at one time; the amount is limited only by the size of the container.

4. There is a certainty of securing a specimen at the first puncture, no matter how small the vein—a feature to be considered when dealing with the hypersensitive patient and those persons in whom the vein can not be punctured by ordinary methods.

5. Last, but not least, the needle can be held firmly in place while the stopcock is opened, overcoming the great objection to the Kiedel tube that the needle may be moved through the wall of the vein while breaking the glass, and the danger of withdrawing the needle from the vein when pulling on the plunger while using the luer syringe method.

The method here described is in use in several of the clinics of the South, and from all reports it is proving not only entirely satisfactory, but is found to be cheaper than the Kiedel tube.

The apparatus is easily cleaned and practically no attention is required to keep it in perfect condition; and in the larger clinics it is only necessary to have a number of stopcocks and needles.

CHILD HEALTH SUPERVISION.

Owing to the growth of interest manifested in child-welfare activities by State and local departments of health, as evidenced by the establishment of divisions of child hygiene in an increasing number of those departments, it is not inappropriate at this time to invite attention to maternity and infant welfare schemes that are being considered or adopted in other countries. The following extracts are taken from *The Medical Officer* of January 10, 1920.

Nursing Scheme.

In an attempt to coordinate the activities of the volunteer nursing associations with those of the legally constituted health authorities, the following maternity and infant welfare nursing scheme has been adopted for the county of Pembrokeshire, South Wales:

1. A central committee to be formed of 12 members, 6 of whom shall be appointed by the county council and 6 by the South Wales Nursing Association.

2. The duties of the central committee to be—
 - (a) Engaging and dismissing nurses working under the scheme;
 - (b) Responsibility for starting new associations in districts where there are none at present;
 - (c) Arranging for the grouping of parishes and the consideration of the number of nurses required for each district.
3. The county council to pay £90 per annum to each local association for each nurse employed, as sanctioned by the central committee, and, in addition, a sum not exceeding £25 to each new association for initial expenses. The local associations to undertake to carry out the work required by the public-health committee and the education committee of the county council as scheduled.
4. The county council grants to be paid quarterly to the secretary of each local association. Each local association to pay its own nurse or nurses.
5. Each local association to have a committee of not less than six members, of whom the county councillor representing the district shall be one, and also any alderman of the county council living in the district.
6. Each local association to present a balance sheet annually to the central committee, and to send in reports of the work of the nurse as may be required by the county medical officer of health.
7. A superintendent nurse to be engaged by the central committee when the scheme is in full working order, if necessary.
9. The county council to give a grant to the nursing association for the training of nurses for work in the county.
10. For the purpose of obtaining grants from the various government departments concerned the £90 should be divided equally among the following five branches of work—namely, midwifery, public health, tuberculosis, school nursing, and school visiting, and the initial grant of £25 for instruments, etc., should be charged as a maternity and child-welfare expense.

Assistance in Providing Milk.

In view of the large number of applications received from expectant and nursing mothers for assistance in providing milk and of preparing a scheme for supplying milk at cost price, and in view of the increase in the maximum price of same, the maternity and child-welfare sub-committee of the Swindon town council recommended the following schedule:

- (a) That not more than $1\frac{1}{2}$ pints of milk be provided daily, free of cost, for children under $1\frac{1}{2}$ years of age, where the total weekly income of the family, after deducting the amount paid for the rent of the house, does not exceed 7s. 6d. per head.
- (b) That not more than $1\frac{1}{2}$ pints of milk be provided daily at half cost for children under $1\frac{1}{2}$ years of age, where the total weekly income of the family, after deducting the amount paid for the rent of the house, is between 7s. 6d. and 10s. per head.
- (c) That the consideration of the question of providing a supply of milk for children between $1\frac{1}{2}$ and 5 years of age be deferred for the present.
- (d) That not more than 1 pint of milk be provided

daily free of cost to expectant and nursing mothers where the total weekly income of the family, after deducting the amount paid for the rent of the house, does not exceed 7s. 6d. per head. (e) That not more than 1 pint of milk be provided daily at half cost to expectant and nursing mothers, where the total weekly income of the family, after deducting the amount paid for the rent of the house, is between 7s. 6d. and 10s. per head.

On approval of the recommended scheme by the ministry of health wide publicity and notice to expectant and nursing mothers is to be given by handbills and otherwise.

Instruction.

The following is a suggested list of suitable subjects for talks imparting useful information collectively to mothers at welfare stations, taken from a report by P. Caldwell Smith, which may be found useful:

Baby clothes.	Indigestion in infants.
Best food for Britons.	Infection and disinfection.
Breast feeding.	Influenza.
Care of the body.	Infantile diarrhea.
Care of the feet.	Labor-saving devices.
Care of the teeth, eyes, nose, and throat.	Measles.
Childhood insurance.	Open-air schools.
Chicken pox and mumps.	Ophthalmia neonatorum.
Clothing of infants and young children.	Rashes a baby can have.
Common ailments.	Rickets: How caused.
Convulsions.	Skin, The.
Cleanliness of person, clothes, surroundings.	Sunshine and fresh air.
Day nurseries.	Superstitions of lying-in period; need for proper nourishment.
Early symptoms of infectious diseases.	Tonsils and adenoids.
Feeding of children from 9 months to 3 years of age.	Tuberculosis.
First aid at home.	Vaccination.
Flies.	Vermin of all sorts; how to get rid of them.
Food substitutes.	Whooping cough.
Food values.	
General hygiene.	
Habits and need for early training.	National kitchens.
Hay-box cooking [fireless cooker].	Organizations in this borough to help mothers and children.
Hand-feeding.	Work of welfare centers and how they help mothers.
Housing.	What did each mother do to practice economy in war time?
How infectious diseases are spread.	
How to wash woolen garments.	
Hygiene of pregnancy.	

For purpose of comparison, the estimated cost of providing milk as outlined is presented. The cost of providing $1\frac{1}{2}$ pints of milk daily for 12 months, free of cost, for 50 children under $1\frac{1}{2}$ years of age (as mentioned in par. a) would be £568, 15s., and that the cost of providing $1\frac{1}{2}$ pints of milk daily for 12 months for 50 children under $1\frac{1}{2}$ years of age, at half cost (as mentioned in par. b), would be £284, 7s., 6d. The medical officer of health also estimates that the cost of providing 1 pint of milk daily for 12 months for 100 expectant and nursing mothers (as mentioned in clause *d*) would be £760, and the cost of providing 1 pint of milk daily for 12 months for 100 expectant and nursing mothers (as mentioned in clause *e*) at half cost would be £380.